

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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The WEEKLY DISPATCH is published at \$2 per annum, in advance.

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THROUGH THE STATE.

PETERSBURG AND VICINITY.

City Reads Review--Personal and Other Matters.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch).

PETERSBURG, February 4, 1885. With the exception of the railroad, the city of Petersburg is a very old one, and it is hoped that this town will have a long and successful future.

The Richmond morning papers were delivered here yesterday at 4 o'clock P. M. There is a heavy ground swell of complaint arising from the tardiness of the mails as between this city and Richmond.

Common humanity leads us to suggest to Mr. MURRAY HALSTEAD that a decoction of tobacco is a good thing to fall back upon after stirring up a hornet's nest.

In a speech made in the House of Representatives last week Mr. BLANCHARD, of Louisiana, made the following statement:

"Why, sir, there is within the limits of the United States one sixth of the world's entire wealth; and it is a fact, sir, that we as a people are increasing in wealth at the rate of \$2,000,000 a day--more than twice as rapidly as our nearest rivals, Great Britain and Germany, and nearly six times as rapidly as the greatest of our other rivals."

We add that the United States contains only about one-twenty-fifth of the population of the world.

The Potomac between this city and Washington has been blocked by ice for several weeks, and the usual capital, though situated on the banks of a magnificent river, is practically shut off from all communication with the other parts of the country except by land--*Alexandria Gazette.*

And the James has not been blocked one day during the whole winter. The river boats have not missed one trip. A few degrees of temperature mark the difference between a season of ice and snow and one of little or no ice and snow.

The impromptu duel in Portsmouth between John L. Jack and Carter Page has made a sensation in that little city. I had an interview yesterday with Page's brother, and he said he could find no evidence of a prearranged duel.

But from the statement of the saloon-keeper where the duel actually occurred it is learned that Jack actually wrote Page a challenge after the first difficulty, and Page accepted it, writing on the back, "Will meet you at 1 o'clock."

Jack called Page out at that hour, but Page and the saloon-keeper said they understood the "1 o'clock" to mean on the following afternoon. Jack insisted, however, on a fight, and Page asked for fifteen minutes, which he went to his home for.

A little while he returned, and going to the door of the saloon, motioned to Jack to come out. An officer was standing by, and Jack pointing to him, proposed to defer the fight to him, proposed to defer the fight to him, proposed to defer the fight to him.

Jack returned the fire and emptied his pistol, which had contained five rounds of cartridges. The third shot struck Page in the face. Page fired four shots, but did not strike his antagonist.

Jack was arrested and taken to jail. He was to have a preliminary hearing to-day, but the case was continued to await the result of Page's wound. Jack is still in jail, but declines to make a statement, saying he was drunk and knew very little about the difficulty.

John L. Jack is a native of Portsmouth, but for some time connected a hat business on Broad street, Richmond. More recently he has been in the employment of J. H. Chataigne, the "Directory" publisher of Richmond.

Page's wound is said by his physician to be a dangerous one, and secondarily hemorrhage is feared. However, no unfavorable symptoms have made their appearance as yet, and it is hoped he will recover.

Mr. W. E. Burley, the painter who fell from a three-story building several days ago, is lying in a critical condition at his residence, and all hopes of his recovery have been despaired of.

The "Wednesday Club" is a new "historic" organization in the city of a private character. The first performance was given last evening.

Mrs. Mary S. J. Scarborough, relief of the late Judge P. Scarborough, of the Corporation Court of this city, died here last night quite suddenly.

ELIA.

DANVILLE.

Tobacco Statistics--Severance Adopted.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch).

FEBRUARY 3, 1885.

The sales of leaf tobacco for last month amounted to 3,595,783 pounds, and the average was \$113.13. In January of last year the quantity sold was 2,068,816 pounds, and the average \$122.94. The quantity sold in the last four months was 9,800,728 pounds, and the averages, respectively, \$111.12, \$113.33, \$112.23, and \$113.13; the quantity sold in the same four months in the preceding year was 7,647,000 pounds, and the average \$113.69.

At a meeting of the Council yesterday evening a system of sewerage for the city was unanimously adopted, and the order made that the work be commenced as soon as practicable at several points. The work is placed under the city engineer and the Committee on Sewerage, and to help on the engineer \$500 was added to his salary for one year from date. It is estimated that the cost will be about \$25,000, and \$10,000 will be at once appropriated; but the order is that the owners of real estate along whose lots the sewers run shall pay one-half of the expenses--that is, each proprietor will pay one-fourth. The citizens sent up no petitions as to general thing, but few of them were present, although they had been by proclamation invited to attend.

ALPHA.

WILLIAMSBURG.

Judges and Commissioners of Elections.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch).

FEBRUARY 4, 1885.

LYNCHBURG.

Spring-Hill Cemetery--Killed on Paper, but Alive in the Flesh.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch).

FEBRUARY 4, 1885.

The recent amateur performance of Emeraldia for the benefit of Spring-Hill Cemetery netted about \$180. The Cemetery Association has been incorporated by Judge Latham, and the work of improvement is about completed.

One of the city newspapers killed yesterday who are yet alive, and in one case your correspondent came near committing a similar act. A negro named Frank Reid was dangerously crushed by the fall of an electric light pole, and an hour afterwards was reported dead. He still survives, however, and bids fair to recover. The death of O'Donovan Rossa was believed here yesterday, causing much excitement. The mistake was not corrected until midnight.

The excavation for the Government building is nearly completed, and the contract for the stone-work will soon be awarded. The plan of the building is seriously objected to here, and I should not be surprised if an effort was made to have it modified. The plan as at present drawn contemplates having the post-office on the site of the old Lynchburg and Southwest railroad scheme will be submitted to a vote of the people of this city at the municipal election in May.

BEAUMONT.

KING WILLIAM.

A Corpse and a Mystery.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch).

SWEET HALL, February 2, 1885.

Recently there arrived at this station a corpse from Baltimore. Friends were expected to call for and properly inter the same. They failed to do so, however; and after the body had remained at Sweet Hall several days, the railroad authorities had to order it to be buried on their own right of way. It was buried this morning.

An anonymous letter received at this place about the time the corpse arrived. It said: "Mary has been sick for a long time, and is now dead, and she was her last request that she should be buried in King William." No name being signed to this letter, it was impossible to trace it, and as no one would claim the body or have anything to do with it, it had to be buried as above stated, with nothing to mark the last resting-place of a human being.

A card on the box which read, "Mary Riley." Further than this nothing is known. TRAMP.

A New Trial.

A Hampton letter states that Judge Henley has granted Dr. Pitts a new trial. Pitts was convicted of killing Dr. Thom.

GREENLY MAKES A STATEMENT.

He Undertakes to Set at Rest Some Unsettled Rumors.

The Washington Star of Tuesday carries an interview with Lieutenant Greenly, in which that officer denies the truth of certain injurious statements made about him in connection with the proposition to create for him the office of assistant chief signal officer. He says: "I am very sorry to believe that the charge of publication was taken from the diary of the men who I sacrificed the lives of my men for food, &c. I am every ready to believe that the withdrawal of the bill was not for the reasons, but because of the evident intention of Congress to include a new business in the appropriation bills. There has been, however, some secret influence at work against me, and I am satisfied that it was the intention to see it when it might be of the most source the attacks emanated, but they have finally assumed such a phase as enable me to take action regarding them."

"I have to-day written a letter to the Secretary of War with unmistakable proofs of the falsity of these accusations. It contains a certificate from the proper authorities that the diaries of the men contain no such information as alleged, and Sergeant Brainerd has himself denied that he has made the charges as alleged. While I am not at liberty to give you all the contents, I am free to say that the Democratic majority to put them to a test vote, and while vindicating themselves show to the country where the responsibility and blame properly lie by compelling them to show their hands."

Unless such a test as this is made upon the Blair bill or the no rule, the Democratic party in the House will be forever disgraced. It is not to be excused, much less to argue, out of it before the people of Virginia in the next campaign, and our neglect will be Mahone's only stock in trade with which to lead his hosts against us in the fight.

Some thoughtless congressman who has not got more than 140,000 ignorant negro voters to lunge against him next election, may say that this is "giving the subject too much importance," but let him try to himself as we have to do down here in Virginia and he will find that he is only trifling with the subject himself and by opposition to, or neglect of, the Blair bill, he is doing immense and inexcusable damage to the Democratic party of our State by endangering success next November.

By Mr. Hurd's extreme folly last year on the tariff question he lost his election in a Democratic district of more than 5,000 majority, and helped to give Ohio to Blaine by 20,000. His motion the other day in the House on the Blair bill was another piece of just such blundered folly and short-sightedness, which could only originate with a political crank who never stops to consider the tendency of his action to himself and his party and friends. The defeat of the educational bill may do no hurt to the Ohio gentleman next fall, because he is not in the race, but it will place a bludgeon in the hands of our enemies in Virginia and the South with which to make a savage warfare upon us that might easily be avoided by a sensible act of easy legislation.

The Dispatch has again laid again

the note of warning into the

bull ears of Congress, and they have

yet a month's time in which to put

the matter to a test. If our friends neglect

the opportunity a fearful responsibility

will rest on their heads.

DEMOCRAT.

Virginia and North Carolina Postal

Notes.

The following postmasters have been

recently commissioned: Benjamin Griffith,

at Ben, Allegheny county, Va.;

William L. Hackett, at Glenmore, Buck-

ingham county, Va.; Benjamin F.

Spencer, at Toga, Buckingham county,

Va.; Lewis W. Kincannon, Max Meadows,

Wythe county, Va.; Benjamin F.

Fields, Filling County, Lenoir county,

N. C.; S. Taylor, Forest City,

Rutherford county, N. C.; Alva Cham-

ness, at Brunswick, Randolph county,

N. C.

Horsford's Bread Preparation

requires less shortening than any other

baking-powder or yeast. Try it.

DEATHS.

CONWAY--Died at the residence of her

mother, No. 621 North Ninth street, Febru-

ary 2d, 1885. She was 62 years of age.

Her funeral will take place at St. Paul's

church THURSDAY, February 5th, at 4

o'clock P. M.

BURKE--Died on Wednesday, February

4, 1885. EDDIE LEWIS DUKE, aged fifteen

months.

Her funeral will take place at St. Paul's

church THURSDAY, February 5th, at 4

o'clock P. M.

GOSPEL SERVICES AT

GRACE-STREET PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH, (corner of Grace and Fourth

streets), commencing at 10 o'clock, to-
morrow, Sunday, February 7th, at 10 o'clock.

A cordial welcome to all. 6-3-4

BANKER SHEPARD'S SON.

Gone to be a Cowboy Detective on Twenty Dollars Capital.

AFTER FIFTY YEARS.

A Woman Commenced Nearly Half a Century in an Alms-house, and Now as Mistress.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch).

FEBRUARY 4, 1885.

A Hartford (Conn.) special says: A remarkable case is in progress in Hartford, Conn., involving the identification of Nancy Banning, who was supposed for half a century to be dead. Marian Banning died in 1879, leaving \$16,000. Her two sisters claimed to be the only heirs, and petitioned the Probate Court to transfer the property to them. Pending settlement the city authorities, through the city clerk, presented to the alms-house a woman claiming to be Nancy Banning in the alms-house of that city for fifty years. The trial developed some strange evidence. Superintendent Dutcher, of the Poughkeepsie alms-house, testified that a woman claiming to be Nancy Banning had been there for that period. An aged man named Soule testified that he found the woman one bleak March morning in 1839 wandering around the vicinity of the Dutchess county, recently clad and half crazy. He placed her in the alms-house.

DISPOSING OF A PAUPER.

The connecting link was furnished by

Charles Strong, who testified that in 1839 the contractors for the keeping of the Connecticut State pauper-hospital, at Middletown, had taken a woman, a pauper in the Litchfield alms-house, outside the State limits and abandon her. He did so, and left the woman, then aged twenty-five years, and partly demented, in the town of Dover. The alms-house records show that she was received there in March, 1839, from Dover, under the description, "Nancy Strong, crazy, and residence unknown." The evidence of the unfortunate old woman was taken, and, despite her age and mental infirmities, she named church and school-companions of her early life in Hartford, and of families by whom she had been employed up to the time of her mysterious disappearance fifty years ago. The case has been adjourned for further evidence, and will probably be compromised.

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